GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1138
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2001
SMUGGLING OF NARCOTICS
MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been increase in the smuggling of narcotics along Indo-Pak border after the bombardmenton Afghanistan by America;

(b) if so, the extent of increase alongwith the reasons for increase if any; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check the increase in the smuggling of the narcotics?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b) . Seizure of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances along Indo-Pak border, as reported by various drug law enforcement agencies, do not indicate an overall increasing trend after the bombardment on Afghanistan by America.

(b) : Government of India has already taken a number ofsignificant steps to prevent and put effective check on drug trafficking. These include instructions to all drug enforcement agencies to maintain utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts, training to officers, fencing of Indo-Pak border provided with flood lighting, vesting of powers in BSF and Coast Guards under the Customs Act, quarterly coordination meetings by NCB, holding of quarterly cross-border meetings of Indian and Pakistani anti-narcotics agencies as a part of the border meetings of BSF and Pak Rangers, holding of operational levelmeetings with Myanmar officials and providing two sniffer dogs and also training dog handlers of Myanmar.